

Message Text

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42

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H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

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SUBJECT: CABINET COMMUNIQUE ON CURRENT FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DECEMBER 28 CABINET COMMUNIQUE SUMMARIZING FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON'S REPORT ON THE VISIT TO ISRAEL BY ROMANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN SECRETARY PACOSTE, THE ISRAELI POSITION ON THE JANUARY 12 UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AND GOI TALKS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON. PM RABIN REFERRED TO PROBLEM OF LEAKS WHICH WILL BE SUBJECT OF CABINET DISCUSSION AT A LATER DATE. END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN TEXT: THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. YIGAL ALLON, REVIEWED CURRENT POLITICAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THE VISITS BY ROMANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CORNEL PACOSTE AND BY U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA AFFAIRS ALFRED ATHERTON.

2. MR. PACOSTE HAD HAD A "STANDING INVITATION" TO VISIT ISRAEL. THE DATE OF THE VISIT--DETERMINED AT THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST--WAS LINKED TO ROMANIA'S ENTRY INTO UNCLASSIFIED

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THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COMING YEAR,

AND TO ITS JOINING THE "COMMITTEE OF TWENTY" APPOINTED BY THE U.N. ASSEMBLY TO FOLLOW-UP IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSEMBLY'S RESOLUTION ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION. MR. ALLON RECALLED THAT THE SAID ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION HAD BEEN REJECTED BY ISRAEL. HE STRESSED THAT THE GAP BETWEEN ROMANIA'S AND ISRAEL'S POSITIONS ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS WAS A LARGE ONE, AND NOTED THAT ISRAEL'S DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO JOIN THE "COMMITTEE OF TWENTY"--WHICH IS COMPOSED IN THE MAIN OF (REPRESENTATIVES OF) COUNTRIES HOSTILE TO ISRAEL--WAS AGAIN CONVEYED TO THE ROMANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER. MR. ALLON REITERATED CLEARLY TO THE VISITOR THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOT COOPERATE IN ANY MANNER WITH THE "COMMITTEE OF TWENTY", AND WOULD ALSO NOT ENTER INTO TALKS WITH ROMANIA IN THE LATTER'S CAPACITY AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE MIDDLE EAST DEBATE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, ISRAEL'S POSITION--THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL CANNOT SERVE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE GENEVA CONFERENCE--WAS MADE CLEAR TO THE ROMANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER BY MR. ALLON. ISRAEL WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SAID DEBATE AND WILL OPPOSE ANY CHANGE WHATSOEVER--EITHER DIRECT OR INDIRECT--IN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, WHICH ALONE CONSTITUTE A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES ON A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT IN THE REGION.

4. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS REPORTED THAT, ON THE OTHER HAND, BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE CONTINUING AND DEVELOPING TO THE BENEFIT OF BOTH PARTIES.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO MR. ATHERTON'S VISIT, THE FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTED THAT A PRELIMINARY CLARIFICATION TOOK PLACE REGARDING THE MIDDLE EAST DEBATE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE CONCLUSIVE TALKS ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE HELD DURING THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES NEXT MONTH. IN THE TALKS WITH MR. ATHERTON, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE WAS APPRISED OF THE REASONS FOR ISRAEL'S NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE SAID SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE.

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6. THE FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTED THAT CONSULTATIONS AND CONTACTS PRECURSORY TO THE MIDDLE EAST DEBATE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAVE COMMENCED IN VARIOUS CAPITALS, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE CAPITALS OF MEMBER-STATES IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. MR. ALLON SAID THAT THERE WAS CAUSE FOR CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTEMPTS BEING MADE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE INDIRECT ALTERATION OF RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, BY THE SUBMISSION OF SUPPLEMENTS AMOUNT-

ING TO A CHANGE AND DISTORTION OF THESE RESOLUTIONS'
ORIGINAL CONTENT.

7. SINCE THE CABINET PROPOSES TO HOLD A DISCUSSION PRE-
CURSORY TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S TRIP TO THE U.S. NEXT
WEEK, NO POLITICAL DISCUSSION WAS HELD TODAY.

8. IN ANSWER TO COMMENTS CONCERNING LEAKS FROM LAST WEEKS
CABINET SESSION, THE PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT THE MOST
EFFICIENT MEANS AGAINST LEAKS WAS CAREFUL OBSERVANCE BY
EVERY MINISTER OF THE SECRECY OF CABINET DISCUSSIONS.
HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY BETTER MEASURE. THE PRIME MINISTER
ADDED THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO INSTITUTE MEASURES
OF DETECTION AGAINST HIS CABINET COLLEAGUES. CONCLUDING
THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE ISSUE WOULD
BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DISCUSSION PROMISED
FOLLOWING THE JUSTICE MINISTER'S LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER,
REFERRING--INTER ALIA--TO THIS SUBJECT. END TEXT.
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